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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/903,743 07/31/97 LONG

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EXAMINER

PAULA, C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2776

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
08/903,743

Applicant
LONG et al.

Examiner
Cesar B. Paula

Group Art Unit
2776



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jan 20, 2000

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 1-24 and 26-38 is/are pending in the application

Of the above, claim(s) 25 is/are withdrawn from consideration

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-26 and 26-38 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the amendment filed on 1/20/2000.

This action is made final.

2. In the amendment, claim 25 has been canceled. Claims 32-38 have been added. Claims 1-24, and 26-38 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 16, 27-29, 31 and 38 are independent claims.

3. The rejections of claims 1-5, 13-14, 16-17, 22-23, and 25-31 under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated over Judson (Pat. # 5,848,413, 12/8/98, filed on 1/13/95) have been withdrawn as necessitated by the amendment.

Priority

4. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), and based on application # 96 239 54.6 filed in Great Britain on 11/15/1996, which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Oath/Declaration

5. Appropriate corrections were made to the declaration; therefore its objections have been withdrawn.

Drawings

6. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

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Specification

7. Appropriate corrections were made to the abstract; therefore its objections have been withdrawn.

Claim Objections

8. Claim 37 is objected to because of the following informalities: the word "of" is missing between the words "fill each" and "the column". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

9. Appropriate corrections were made to claim 2, therefore its 112 first and second paragraph rejections have been withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 1-6, 8-14, 16-23, 27-29, 30-31, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Judson (Pat. # 5,848,413, 12/8/98, filed on 1/13/95), in view of Yoda (Pat. # 5,848,413, 12/8/98, filed on 1/13/95).

Regarding independent claim 1, Judson discloses: "...the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display....." (Col. 7, lines 46-57). Judson fails to explicitly disclose: *A method of forming a printable document by collating a*

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plurality of hyper-texts documents..... However, Yoda discloses: “....printing a plurality of pieces of linked document information.....” (Col. 3, lines 10-34). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson and Yoda, because Yoda teaches: “....print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily understand.....” (Col. 2, lines 50-51).

Moreover, Judson discloses: *(a) monitoring a user's access patterns to the hyper-text documents*.— “....if the user accesses web pages relating to a particular service, the browser may be programmed to identify this access history.....”(Col. 7, lines 29-34). In this quote, Judson teaches the monitoring of the user's access history or patterns of hypertext documents.

Moreover, Judson discloses: *(b) accessing the hyper-text documents including structure information*.....— “....if the user accesses web pages relating to a particular service, the browser may be programmed to identify this access history.....”(Col. 7, lines 29-34). In this quote, Judson teaches the monitoring and accessing of the user's access history or patterns of hypertext documents.

Moreover, Judson discloses: *(c) compiling a list of the hyper-text documents using the structure information*--“....if the user accesses web pages relating to a particular service, the browser may be programmed to identify this access history.....”(Col. 7, lines 29-34). In this quote, Judson teaches the compilation of the user's access history or patterns of hypertext documents.

Furthermore, Judson discloses: “....the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display.....” (Col. 7, lines 46-57). Judson fails to

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explicitly disclose: *(d) formatting the list into the printable document comprising each hyper-text document specified in the list.* However, Yoda discloses: “....designating a print operation of desired first document information.....extracting link information indicating second document information.....printing the first document information and the second document information” (Col. 3, lines 14-34). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson and Yoda, because Yoda teaches: “....print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily understand.....” (Col. 2, lines 50-51).

Regarding claim 2, which depends on claim 1, Judson discloses: “....while the download of the document (and the information object) continues at step 114 as a background process.....” (Col. 9, lines 36-52). Judson fails to explicitly disclose: *steps (a) ...and (d) are conducted while the user accesses at least the hyper-text documents.* However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had performed this step, because Judson teaches: “This ensures that the user can begin browsing the first hypertext document irrespective of whether the download of the information object is complete” (Col. 9, lines 40-43).

Regarding claim 3, which depends on claim 1, Judson discloses:*the printable document is updated upon new hyper-text pages being accessed--*“....if the user accesses web pages relating to a particular service, the browser may be programmed to identify this access history.....”(Col. 7, lines 29-34). In this quote, Judson teaches the compilation of the user’s access history or patterns of hypertext documents as the user accesses new documents.

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Regarding claim 4, which depends on claim 1, Judson discloses:*said steps are performed in a background mode relative to the user's access to the hyper-text documents--* “....while the download of the document (and the information object) continues at step 114 as a background process.....” (Col. 9, lines 36-52). Judson is teaching in this quote, that the steps of claim 1 were performed as a background process.

Regarding claim 5, which depends on claim 1, Judson discloses:*steps (b) to (d) are asynchronously to the user's access to the hyper-text documents--* “This ensures that the user can begin browsing the first hypertext document irrespective of whether the download of the information object is complete” (Col. 9, lines 40-43). Judson is teaching in this quote, that the steps of claim 1 were performed independently from the access to hypertext documents.

Regarding claim 6, which depends on claim 1, Judson discloses: “....while the download of the document (and the information object) continues at step 114 as a background process.....” (Col. 9, lines 36-52). Judson fails to explicitly disclose:*said steps are performed substantially in synchronism to said user's access*. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had performed this step, because Judson teaches: “This ensures that the user can begin browsing the first hypertext document irrespective of whether the download of the information object is complete” (Col. 9, lines 40-43).

Regarding claim 8, which depends on claim 7, Judson discloses: “This ensures that the user can begin browsing the first hypertext document irrespective of whether the download of the information object is complete” (Col. 9, lines 40-43). Judson fails to explicitly disclose:*the*

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printable document comprises a plurality of the hyper-text documents on at least one page of the printable document. However, Yoda discloses: “....designating a print operation of desired first document information.....extracting link information indicating second document information.....printing the first document information and the second document information” (Col. 3, lines 14-34). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson and Yoda, because Yoda teaches: “....print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily understand.....” (Col. 2, lines 50-51).

Regarding claim 9, which depends on claim 1, Judson discloses:*the printable document comprises a table of contents listing each hyper-text document*--“ history of document information names printed by this apparatus and the print start page numbers” (Col. 7, lines 27-39). In this quote, Judson is teaching, a history or a table of contents of all the documents printed.

Regarding claim 10, which depends on claim 1, Judson discloses:*hyper-link index of at least one hyper link reference*--“The link information extraction unit 6 extracts link information from the stored document information, and specifies link information indicating a link to the first document information.....” (Col. 6, lines 18-30). In this quote, Judson is teaching, specifying or tagging a link with a cross reference to a corresponding document located in an index or management table.

Regarding claim 11, which depends on claim 10, Judson discloses:*each hyper-link reference in the printable document is tagged with a cross reference to a corresponding entry*

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.....--“The link information extraction unit 6 extracts link information from the stored document information, and specifies link information indicating a link to the first document information.....” (Col. 6, lines 18-30). In this quote, Judson is teaching, specifying or tagging a link with a cross reference to a corresponding document located in an index or management table.

Regarding claim 12, which depends on claim 10, Judson discloses: *said hyper-link index comprises all hyper-link references of each hyper-text*--“The link information extraction unit 6 extracts link information from the stored document information, and specifies link information indicating a link to the first document information.....registers the specified link information in the two-way link information management table.....” (Col. 6, lines 18-30). In this quote, Judson is teaching, a table all the two way link relationships of each hypertext document involved in an index or management table.

Regarding claim 13, which depends on claim 1, Judson discloses: *at least one hyper-text document comprises an HTML document*.--“The link information extraction unit 6 extracts link information from the stored document information, and specifies link information indicating a link to the first document information.....registers the specified link information in the two-way link information management table.....” (Col. 6, lines 18-30). In this quote, Judson is teaching, a table all the two way link relationships of each HTML document involved in an index or management table.

Regarding claim 14, which depends on claim 1, Judson discloses: “...WWW hypermedia documentsare separately stored in units of topics.....The information reception unit 94 forms

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a message as a transmission request.....” (Col. 1, lines 37-67). Judson fails to explicitly disclose: *.... said hyper-text documents are accessed using Internet protocols.* However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to performed this step, because Judson teaches above, the transmission of hypermedia documents over the Internet.

Regarding independent claim 16, Judson discloses: “....the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display.....” (Col. 7, lines 46-57). Judson fails to explicitly disclose: *A method of forming a printable document by collating a plurality of hyper-texts documents.....* However, Yoda discloses: “....printing a plurality of pieces of linked document information.....” (Col. 3, lines 10-34). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson and Yoda, because Yoda teaches: “....print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily understand.....” (Col. 2, lines 50-51).

Moreover, Judson discloses: *(a) accessing the hyper-text documents including structure information.*— “....if the user accesses web pages relating to a particular service, the browser may be programmed to identify this access history.....”(Col. 7, lines 29-34). In this quote, Judson teaches the monitoring and accessing of the user’s access history or patterns of hypertext documents.

Furthermore, Judson discloses: “....the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display.....” (Col. 7, lines 46-57). Judson fails to explicitly disclose: *collating and formatting the accessed hyper-texts documents.....* However, Yoda discloses: “....printing a plurality of pieces of linked document information.....” (Col. 3,

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lines 10-34). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson and Yoda, because Yoda teaches: “....print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily understand.....” (Col. 2, lines 50-51).

Regarding claim 17, which depends on claim 16, Judson discloses: “....the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display.....” (Col. 7, lines 46-57). Judson fails to explicitly disclose: *.....at least some of the hyper-texts documents are determined by accepting a specification from a user.....* However, Yoda discloses: “....designating a print operation of desired first document information” (Col. 3, lines 14-34). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson and Yoda, because Yoda teaches: “....print a hypermedia document in a format that a user can easily understand.....” (Col. 2, lines 50-51).

Claims 18-23 are directed towards a method for carrying out the steps found in claims 9-14 respectively, and are similarly rejected.

Claim 27 is directed towards a method for carrying out the steps found in claim 16, and is similarly rejected.

Claim 28 is directed towards a computer system for carrying out the steps found in claim 16, and is similarly rejected.

Claim 29 is directed towards a computer readable medium for storing the steps found in claim 1, and is similarly rejected.

Claim 30 is directed towards a computer readable medium for storing the steps found in claim 1, and is similarly rejected.

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Claim 31 is directed towards a computer program product having a computer readable medium for storing the steps found in claim 1, and is similarly rejected.

Claim 38 is directed towards a method for forming a single printable documents for carrying out the steps found in claim 16, and is similarly rejected.

12. Claims 15, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Judson, in view of Yoda, further in view of Brown, BORLAND QUATTRO PRO User's Guide (1992).

Regarding claim 15, which depends on claim 1, Judson discloses: "...the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display....." (Col. 7, lines 46-57). Judson, and Yoda fail to explicitly disclose:*steps of displaying the printable document in preview form*..... However, Brown discloses: "You can use....the Preview button.....to see an onscreen preview of how the document will appear" (page 129, pgph. 2). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson, Yoda, and Brown, because Brown teaches above the previewing of the appearance once printed.

Claim 24 is directed towards a method for carrying out the steps found in claim 15, and is similarly rejected.

13. Claims 7, 26, and 32-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Judson, in view of Yoda, further in view of Hayashi et al (Pat. # 5,633,996, 5/27/97, filed on 11/8/94).

Regarding claim 7, which depends on claim 1, Judson discloses: "...the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display....." (Col.

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7, lines 46-57). Judson, and Yoda fail to explicitly disclose:*step (d) comprises the steps of formatting the printable document for multiple column page.....* However, Hayashi et al disclose: “....document layout processing device which is capable of automatically generating a multi-column document.....” (Col. 2, lines 47-52, and Fig. 26-51). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson, Yoda, and Hayashi et al, because Hayashi et al teach above the automatic layout of a structured document into a multicolumn document.

Regarding claim 26, which depends on claim 16, Judson discloses: “....the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display.....” (Col. 7, lines 46-57). Judson, and Yoda fail to explicitly disclose: *the predetermined printable document format comprises multiple columns arranged on pages.....* However, Hayashi et al disclose: “....document layout processing device which is capable of automatically generating a multi-column document.....” (Col. 2, lines 47-52). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson, Yoda, and Hayashi et al, because Hayashi et al teach above the automatic layout of a structured document into a multicolumn document.

Regarding claim 32, which depends on claim 32, Judson discloses: “....the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display.....” (Col. 7, lines 46-57). Judson, and Yoda fail to explicitly disclose:*maximizing the number of hyper-text documents on each page.....* However, Hayashi et al disclose: “....searching an area for display or printing to which the contents of the document can be laid out.....” (Col. 3, lines 7-

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24). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson, Yoda, and Hayashi et al, because Hayashi et al teach above search of printable or displayable space the automatic layout of a structured document into a multicolumn document.

Regarding claim 33, which depends on claim 32, Judson discloses: "...the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display....." (Col. 7, lines 46-57). Judson, and Yoda fail to explicitly disclose:*determining if space exists on a page of the printable document.....if so, inserting the formatted hyper-text document.....*

However, Hayashi et al disclose: "...searching an area for display or printing to which the contents of the document can be laid out....." (Col. 3, lines 7-24). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson, Yoda, and Hayashi et al, because Hayashi et al teach above search of printable or displayable space the automatic layout of a structured document into a multicolumn document.

Regarding claim 34, which depends on claim 16, Judson discloses: "...the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display....." (Col. 7, lines 46-57). Judson, and Yoda fail to explicitly disclose:*using one of a single or multiple column format and optimizing the number of the hyper-text documents on each page.....*

However, Hayashi et al disclose: "...searching an area for display or printing to which the contents of the document can be laid out....." (Col. 3, lines 7-24). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings

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of Judson, Yoda, and Hayashi et al, because Hayashi et al teach above search of printable or displayable space the automatic layout of a structured document into a multicolumn document.

Regarding claim 35, which depends on claim 16, Judson discloses: “...the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display.....” (Col. 7, lines 46-57). Judson, and Yoda fail to explicitly disclose:*using one of a single or multiple column format and optimizing the number of the hyper-text documents on each page.....*

However, Hayashi et al disclose: “...searching an area for display or printing to which the contents of the document can be laid out.....” (Col. 3, lines 7-24). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson, Yoda, and Hayashi et al, because Hayashi et al teach above search of printable or displayable space the automatic layout of a structured document into a multicolumn document.

Regarding claim 36, which depends on claim 35, Judson discloses: “...the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display.....” (Col. 7, lines 46-57). Judson, and Yoda fail to explicitly disclose:*printable pages of the printable document are formatted with at least two columns*. However, Hayashi et al disclose:

“...searching an area for display or printing to which the contents of the document can be laid out.....” (Col. 3, lines 7-24). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson, Yoda, and Hayashi et al, because Hayashi et al teach above search of printable or displayable space the automatic layout of a structured document into a multicolumn(at least two columns) document.

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Regarding claim 37, which depends on claim 35, Judson discloses: "...the information object may be automatically or selectively queued to the client printer upon display....." (Col. 7, lines 46-57). Judson, and Yoda fail to explicitly disclose:*documents are formatted within the plural ones of the columns...to continuously reasonably fill each the column.....* However, Hayashi et al disclose: "...document layout processing device which is capable of automatically generating a multi-column document....." (Col. 2, lines 47-52, and Fig. 26-51). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Judson, Yoda, and Hayashi et al, because Hayashi et al teach above the automatic layout of a structured document into a multicolumn document as to accommodate the entire structured document into several columns.

Response to Arguments

14. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 3, 6-8, 15-16, 24, 27, 28, 29, 31, 38 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Please refer to the new rejections of these claims.

Conclusion

15. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

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will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

I. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. SUBRAMANIAM et al. (Pat. # 5,859,972), WU et al. (Pat. # 5,931,912), and CHEN et al. (Pat. # 5,668,988).


II. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cesar B. Paula whose telephone number is (703) 306-5543. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Razavi, can be reached on (703) 305-4713. However, in such a case, please allow at least one business day. The formal and informal fax phone numbers for this Group are (703) 308-9051 and 308-5403 respectively.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

cbp

04/10/00


STEPHEN S. HONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER